

November 1968. League Match v. Kingstonian (away)

Kingstonian 3, Wycombe Wanderers 0

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EVEN A 15th-minute thigh injury to goalkeeper Cobb could not prevent Kingstonian's Isthmian League victory over the second-in-the-table Wycombe.

Cobb could only hobble about for the rest of the match but Wycombe's attack was kept well at bay by Kingstonian's tight defence.

After Adaway's 28th-minute goal, Kingstonian were very much on top but they had to wait until the last five minutes to make the score-line resemble the 'run of play'.

Then a shot by McCormack and a header by McBryde finally dashed Wycombe's faint hopes of snatching a point.

AGAINST a fast-improving Kingstonian, Wycombe Wanderers' display on Saturday was lethargic and indecisive, allowing the home side to coast to a comfortable win. After an impressive start, Wycombe are now beginning to lose touch with the Isthmian League leaders.

The ease of Kingstonian's victory was less an expression of superior skill than a condemnation of Wycombe's lack of fight. Without the courage of goalkeeper Maskell, the score-line might well have been doubled.

Wycombe opened brightly enough, attacking down the centre of the field and testing Kingstonian's inexperienced defence with direct positive running.

Horseman was unlucky not to score in the seventh minute when he burst through on the right of the penalty box only to see his powerful shot deflected by goalkeeper Cobb's legs.

Five minutes later Horseman was the most surprised player on the field as Cobb's fluffed goal-kick found him unmarked just outside the penalty area. But he took too long to control the ball and Cobb was able to hold the shot as he ran back to his line.

Kingstonian counter-attacked and the Wycombe defence was caught square as Leonard crossed from the left. The ball was intercepted but Lailey and Rundle were slow to clear and Hugo ran through only to be foiled by Maskell's courageous dive.

The lack of decision in Wycombe's defence encouraged the home side and it was only Maskell's anticipation and reflexes which kept the score-sheet blank.

After 29 minutes Adaway held off Gale to score with a powerful shot into the roof of the net.

A minute later McCormack rode three half-hearted tackles to race clear in the penalty box but Maskell produced the save of the match to push his shot around the post.

In the second half, Wycombe were more positive in their approach and Thomas began to make his presence felt in midfield.



TONY HORSEMAN...
worked hard

Rundle missed a wonderful chance to level the scores when Cobb misjudged Worley's corner but he headed over the cross-bar.

Despite the frequency of their attack, Wycombe were never really positive enough in front of goal. Cobb, limping heavily after a first-half collision, was

rarely tested, and right-winger Worley was firmly held by full-back Finn.

Whenever the home side attacked there was panic in the Wycombe defence. No one seemed anxious to take responsibility and this indecision cost Wycombe a second goal in the 88th minute.

McCormack raced through a square back-line and steered the ball past Maskell as he raced off his goal-line. A minute later McBryde nodded in a low cross to complete the score-line.

Only Maskell and Gale, who overlapped well on the left, emerged with credit from a poor defensive display. Horseman worked hard in attack, prompted by Thomas in mid-field, but the finishing poor.

Kingstonian — Cobb; Clarke, Markham; Edwards, Finn, Preston; Adaway, Hugo, Leonard, McCormack, McBryde.

Wycombe Wanderers — Maskell; Temel, Gale; Lailey, Rundle, Thomas; Worley, Baker, Faulkner, Horseman, Merrick.